

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 13041 291357Z

42

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

----- 050305

O 291325Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8830

S E C R E T CAIRO 13041

NODIS

FOR UNDERSECRETARY SISCO FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR PFOR EG IS US

SUBJECT: E-1 SITE CONTROVERSY

REF STATE 303536; CAIRO 13018 AND 13020

1. WHEN MEETING WITH FAHMY THIS MORNING, I TOLD HIM THAT I HAD REPORTED HIS AND GENERAL FAHMY'S COMMENTS ON E-1 SITE CONTROVERSY TO WASHINGTON FOR ITS CONSIDERATION. I HAD NOW RECEIVED A REPLY ENDORSING THE COMMENT I HAD MADE TO GENERAL FAHMY THAT THIS IS PROPERLY A TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION BY THE JOINT COMMISSION (JC) MEETING. WITH GOODWILL ON BOTH SIDES, IT OUGHT TO BE POSSIBLE TO WORK IT OUT. IN AN EFFORT TO BE HELPFUL, HOWEVER, WASHINGTON HAD INSTRUCTED OUR AMBASSADOR IN TEL AVIV TO SPEAK TO THE ISRAELIS ABOUT OUR HOPE THAT THE MATTER CAN BE WORKED OUT, BUT THAT WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS APPROPRIATE FOR US TO GET INTO THE MIDDLE ON MERITS OF QUESTION WHICH SHOULD BE SETTLED BY JC.

2. FAHMY EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AT OUR WILLINGNESS SPEAK TO ISRAELIS. HE WAS NEVERTHELESS IN A SOMEWHAT BELLIGERENT MOOD. IF ISRAELIS PERSIST IN THIS TYPE OF TACTIC OR ADMITTY REFUSE TO PERMIT EGYPTIAN CONSTRUCTION TEMA TO GO IN AS STIPULATED

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 CAIRO 13041 291357Z

UNDER GENEVA PROTOCOL HE WARNED, GOEWILL STOP OR

DELAY THE NEXT ISRAELI CARGO THAT WANTS TO TRANSIT THE CANAL. IF THE ISRAELIS WANT TO BE "CLEVER", EGYPTIANS CAN WILL RECIPROcate. IF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SINAI AGREEMENT IS HELD UP BECAUSE OF THIS TYPE OF CONTROVERSY, SO FAR AS HE IS CONCERNED THIS MAKES LITTLE DIFFERENCE. AS WE KNEW FROM THE OUTSET, HE REGARDS SINAI II WITHDRAWAL ARRANGEMENTS AS INCOMMENSURATE WITH THE PRICE PAID. THEY ARE HARDLY ANYTHING. HE THOUGHT THAT EVEN SADAT IS BEGINNING TO REALIZE THIS. SADAT HAD AGREED TO SINAI II ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT USG WILL MOUNT MAJOR EFFORT IN 1977 TO GO FOR AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT. BUT SADAT, FAHMY CLAIMED, IS MINDFUL OF THE FACT THAT EGYPT HAS RISKED MUCH POLITICALLY IN THE ARAB WORLD ON THE CREDIBILITY OF OUR COMMITMENT. WHO KNOWS WHAT WILL HAPPEN BY 1977 AND WHO WILL BE IN OFFICE IN US AT THAT TIME, HE ASKED RHETORICALLY?

3. I TOLD FAHMY NOT DO ANYTHING FOOLISH. WHILE I COULD APPRECIATE EGYPTIAN VEXATION ABOUT THE E-1 SITE CONTROVERSY, THIS IS SURELY A MATTER THAT THE TWOPARTIES CAN WORK OUT IN JC. SUCH PROBLEMS HAVE ARISN IN PAST AND WILL ARISE AGAIN. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT BOTH PARTIES APPROACH THEM WITH A DESIRE TO FIND A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE RESOLUTION. JC IS RIGHT FORUM FOR THIS PURPOSE AND, IN CASE HE HAD NOT HEARD THIS FROM SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES, I HAD BEEN TOLD BY SENIOR EGYPTIAN MILITARY OFFICIALS THAT THE ISRAELIS HAVE THUS FAR CONDUCTED THEMSELVES AT THESE MEETINGS IN A VERY BUSINESSLIKE AND PROPER FASHION. THIS WAS ALSO SIILASVUO'S VIEW. I HOPED, THEREFORE, THAT TODAY'S JC MEETING SHOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM.

6. SUGGEST DEPT PASS THIS MESSAGE TO TEL AVIV.  
EILTS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SURVEILLANCE, CONSTRUCTION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, SITE SURVEYS, MILITARY PLANS, NEGOTIATIONS, CAT-C  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 DEC 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975CAIRO13041  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** P850081-1538  
**From:** CAIRO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t1975129/aaaaahew.tel  
**Line Count:** 97  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NODS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 303536, 75 CAIRO 13018, 75 CAIRO 13020  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24 JUN 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** E-1 SITE CONTROVERSY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MARR, EG, IS, US, (FAHMY, ISMAIL)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006